Theme →	Rhetorical Situation	Claims & Evidence	Reasoning & Organization	Style
🏅**Unit 1** Claims, Reasoning, Evidence	• **Rhetorical situation:** refers to exigence, purpose, audience, writer, context, and message • **Exigence:** what prompts/inspires the writing	• Writer position is conveyed through defensible claim(s)- this means it's not solely fact • Evidence may include: facts, anecdotes analogies, stats, examples, observations, experiments, etc	• Evidence is strategically embedded into writer's ideas; not just pasted in • Writers need to be able to explain why evidence is significant/proves their point	• Style of writing depends on writers' purpose (of which they may have more than one of)
🗂️**Unit 2** Audience	• Audience influences the choices writers make in terms of persuasion methods • Writers attempt to relate to the audience's emotions/beliefs	• Both quantity and quality need to be good for sufficient evidence • Evidence can strengthen credibility and help the audience relate	• **Thesis:** overarching claim writer wants to prove with reasoning and evidence	• Thesis may be sprinkled throughout the text; if it's directly expressed, it's called a **thesis statement**
👀**Unit 3** Perspectives	• Writer's purpose influences **method of development**- range from narration, cause-effect, comparison-contrast, etc	• Commentary necessary to make evidence logically relate to claim • Need to acknowledge others' intellectual property through reference/citation	• **Synthesis:** integration of evidence and others' arguments into writer's • Sequence of paragraphs directly related to line of reasoning	• Holes in a line of reasoning may undermine a writer's argument completely • Adding real-life experiences can advance an argument using relatability
🔚**Unit 4** Intros + Conclusions	• **Comparison-contrast** method: analyze categories of comparison • **Definition/description** method: relates details of something using examples/illustrations	• Introduction may include evidence to draw the audience in • Conclusion may summarize evidence and argument in order to leave the reader thinking and potentially acting	• Thesis may foreshadow line of reasoning • Don't necessarily include all the points of an argument	• Language and tone should be adjusted based on intended audience • Diction can reveal education level and attitudes of intended audience
🤝**Unit 5** Bring it together	• **Descriptive words** (adj. and adv.) can be strategically chosen in order to convey writer's perspective; keeping in mind what's most convincing	• Body paragraphs are usually where claims and evidences are • **Coherence** necessary to create logical connections in between ideas	• Parallel structure and repetition can help organize evidence and commentary • **Transitional elements:** words/phrases/clauses that show relationships between ideas	• Writers consider obvious and more hidden (ie connotative) meanings of words • Accurate diction can help the audience understand the writers' POV
👥**Unit 6** Perspective, Positioning, Bias	• **Position ≠ perspective**- writers may share the same position but approach the topic from different background and specific opinions	• Writers need to consider the **credibility** of their sources, as doubtful sources may detract from their argument • Only the most relevant information should be incorporated into a writer's argument	• While synthesizing evidence, writers should recognize the biases that may be present in said evidence • Be careful about **fallacies** (misleading arguments) while writing	• **Shifts in tone** from paragraph to paragraph can indicate the writer's reevaluation of their argument- may reconsider their line of reasoning
🥊**Unit 7** Arguments	• To successfully convince audience, writer needs to understand complexities of topic • Can't convince audience if they only have a surface level understanding	• The best arguments avoid generalizing or absolute claims • Sentence order can illustrate the pieces of evidence most prioritized by the writer	• **Coordination:** used to show equality between ideas; words like so, and, or, for • **Subordination:** used to show inequality between ideas; words like although, since, unless	• Punctuation like colons and dashes can clarify and supplement sentences • Using design choices such as *italics* or **boldface** can emphasize certain ideas
😎**Unit 8** Style	• Writers need to consider the needs and contexts of their audience when choosing diction and organization • Writer **credibility** influenced by choices	• **Parenthetical additions** can provide greater detail for claims • **Modifiers** can clarify and specify the claim	• **Comparisons** like similes and analogies can help relate ideas to the audience • If comparisons are not easily understandable though, they may detract from writer's purpose	• Irony and complexity can be indicated through writer's choices • Irony can be created when there's a stark contrast between the audience's expectations and the writer's argument
😈**Unit 9** Complexity	• Writers' **concession** (accepting part/all of counterargument) or **rebuttal** (offering contrasting perspective on counterevidence) can improve their credibility to the audience	• Counterarguments can be introduced using transitions • Not all claims attempt to disprove counterarguments	• Rebutting a counterargument requires explanation/commentary on counterevidence- need to prove why it is invalid	• Strategic word choice during thesis writing can convey stronger feelings of urgency, importance, and depth

Essays	How to be Successful	Thesis	Evidence & Commentary	Sophistication
🤝 **Synthesis Essay**	• Read through sources and understand the patterns • Identify a claim that uses multiple sources • Use the sources to back up that claim	• Make a **defensible claim** that can incorporate many types of evidence • Respond **directly** to the prompt • **Analyze** the source types, **find patterns** across the sources, and **formulate** your position	• **Sources:** information you read will either be used to support or refute your claim • **Commentary:** always connect your commentary to your own thesis	**Ways to get sophistication point:** • Identify genuine tensions in sources • Support complex claims with specific evidence • Show how different factors interact • Acknowledge counterarguments
🖋️ **Rhetorical Analysis Essay**	• Identify the **rhetorical choices** in the passage • Find **specific evidence** from the text of those rhetorical choices • Explain the **significance** of the rhetorical choices	• Analyze the author's **rhetorical choices** (not just content) • Make a **defensible claim** that can be supported by specific evidence from the text	• Select **strong evidence**: look for patterns, find specific moments, consider context • **Strong commentary**: identify the rhetorical choice, explain how it works, connect to purpose	**Ways to get sophistication point:** • Look for larger patterns, broader themes, and deeper significance • Consider multiple perspectives or counter arguments
⚖️ **Argument Essay**	• Develop a clear **position** (thesis) • Support your position with specific **evidence** • Explain your **reasoning** in a way that connects to your position	• **Analyze the prompt**: understand what the prompt specifically wants • **Find your angle:** choose your strongest belief • **Craft your position:** take a stance and set up your reasoning	• **Strong evidence:** personal experience, historical examples, hypothetical scenarios, common knowledge, logical reasoning • **Strong commentary** must connect to your thesis and shows how the evidence supports your claim	**Ways to get sophistication point:** • Create a nuanced argument • Situate your argument in broader context • Make effective rhetorical choices